

GROSS MARGARET A
77 SEOUL 7152

DECLASSIFIED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

37 R

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SEOUL 07152 250906Z

ACTION FA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAF-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSF-00 JUSE-00 /073 W

P R 250845Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5977
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 7152
CINCPAC FOR POLAD
F.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT SOPN KS US
SUBJ: REACTION TO PAK TONGSON'S NEWS CONFERENCE OF AUGUST 24
REF: FRIS SK240913Y AUG 77

SUMMARY: WITH PAK TONGSON'S LOCAL INTERVIEW STILL BIG
NEWS TODAY, NDP HAS MOVED TO STAKE OUT OPPOSITION POSITION
FOKG WILL NOT LIKE AND MAY FIND HARD TO HANDLE. END SUMMARY.

1. LOCAL PRESS AUGUST 24-25 CARRIED STORIES OF PAK TONGSON'S
INTERROGATION AUGUST 24 BY SEOUL DISTRICT PROSECUTOR'S
OFFICE AND HIS SUBSEQUENT NEWS CONFERENCE AS FRONT-PAGE
SECOND ITEM. IN THESE ACCOUNTS (SEE EXAMPLE, REFTEL).
PAK'S MOST SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT IN INTERVIEW WAS THAT HE
HAD NEVER OFFERED BRIBES TO US CONGRESSMEN, HAD NEVER
VIOLATED AMERICAN LAW, AND THAT HE SAW NO REASON WHY
HE SHOULD BE QUESTIONED BY HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE
COUNSEL JAWORSKY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SEOUL 07152 250906Z

2. ALL EVENING PAPERS AUGUST 25 CARRY ACCOUNTS OF
NDP STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY, CALLING ON ROKG TO "MAKE
THE ENTIRE CASE PUBLIC AT HOME AND ABROAD SO AS TO
"WIPE OUT (OUR) BAD REPUTATION" AND URGING PAK TONGSON
TO "RESPOND FEARLESSLY TO THE US CONGRESSIONAL
INVESTIGATION." THE STATEMENT, RELEASED BY NDP
SPOKESMAN KO CHAECH'ONG, ALSO CALLED ON ROK NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY TO SUMMON PAK AND INVESTIGATE THE CASE, "TO
RESTORE THE HONOR OF THE ROK IN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY."
3. IN COMMENTING ON PAK'S NEWS CONFERENCE, ONE KOREAN
REPORTER NOTED APPARENT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PAK'S ASSERTION
THAT HE HAD "NEVER APPLIED FOR US PERMANENT RESIDENCE"
AND STATEMENT BY FOREIGN MINISTRY A FEW WEEKS AGO THAT
PAK WAS A PERMANENT RESIDENT OF US.

4. COMMENT: SPLINTER OPPOSITION PARTY (DUP) HAS BEEN CALLING FOR
SOME TIME FOR SIMILAR INVESTIGATION OF PAK CASE BY FOKG, NDP
NOW SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN INITIATIVE ON THIS ISSUE, WHICH HAS
POTENTIAL OF AROUSING DOMESTIC INTEREST AND WHICH ROKG WILL
ALMOST CERTAINLY FIND HARD TO HANDLE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE /

PAGE 1

250912Z /17	
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY	BAFleck
DATE	2/12/80
REASON FOR REVIEW DATE	
TO WHOM	REASON(S)
EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION	
DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY	
RELEASE DATE	
LA 6-201-100-1000	

DECLASSIFIED

GROSS MARGARET A
77 SEOUL 7152

031712001030
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

SNEIDER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 2

DECLASSIFIED